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LOUISA DRAIN

Date: _____

June 21, 2004

Signature

Louisa Drain

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Richard F. Conti

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Conf. No.: 2331

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Group Art Unit: 1753

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Appln. No.: 10/719,052

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Examiner: Not yet assigned

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Filing Date: November 21, 2003

§

Attorney Docket No.: 925-605U1

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(P10342 US01

Title: APPARATUS FOR THE DETECTION AND MEASUREMENT OF PARTICULATES
IN MOLTEN METAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Copies of the cited U.S. patents are not being provided. However, copies of the foreign patent documents and non-patent documents are enclosed.

French Patent Publication FR 2208523 A was cited in an International Search Report dated April 22, 2003 (copy enclosed) regarding International Application No. PCT/IB01/02405, which is the international application of U.S. Patent No. 6,603,296 B2 (issued August 5, 2003), the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference into the present application. Also enclosed is a European Search Report dated February 10, 2004 (copy enclosed) for co-pending European Patent Application No. EP 03026397 counterpart of the present application. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0067155 A1 is cited as issued U.S. Patent No. 6,603,296 B2.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed before the first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

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WWS:AWS/lcd
Enclosures



Form PTO/SB/08

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number 10/719,052
 Filing Date November 21, 2003
 First Named Inventor Richard F. Conti
 Group Art Unit 1753
 Examiner Name Not yet assigned
 Attorney Docket Number 925-605U1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exr Initials	U.S. Patent Document		Name of First Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY
	Number	Kind Code (if known)		
	3,709,040	A	Coe	01-1973
	4,555,662	A	Doutre	11-1985
	4,600,880	A	Doutre	07-1986
	4,763,065	A	Hachey	08-1988
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	5,163,997	A	Sherwood	11-1992
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	5,448,923	A	Hackett	09-1995
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	5,834,928	A	Doutre	11-1998
	6,603,296	B2	Conti	08-2003

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exr Initials	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY	T ₁
	Country Code	Number	Kind Code (if known)			
	EP	0 398 719	A2	Alcan International Limited	11-1990	
	FR	2208523	A	Société Lorraine de Décolletage et de Constructions MécaniquesV	06-1974	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or county where published.	T ₁

Examiner Signature

Date Considered